

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A process for producing oxygenated products from a Fischer-Tropsch derived olefinic feedstock, which process includes reacting the feedstock, in a hydroformylation reaction stage, with carbon monoxide and hydrogen at an elevated reaction temperature and at a superatmospheric reaction pressure in the presence of a hydroformylation catalyst system, which comprises a mixture, combination or complex of

- (i) $\text{Rh}(\text{acac})(\text{CO})_2$ where 'acac' is acetylacetonate, $\text{Rh}(\text{acac})(\text{CO})(\text{TPP})$ where 'acac' is acetylacetonate and 'TPP' is triphenylphosphine, $[\text{Rh}(\text{OAc})_2]_2$ where 'OAc' is acetate, Rh_2O_3 , $\text{Rh}_4(\text{CO})_{12}$, $\text{Rh}_6(\text{CO})_{16}$, $\text{Rh}(\text{CO})_2(\text{dipivaloyl methanoate})$, or $\text{Rh}(\text{NO}_3)_2$;
- (ii) carbon monoxide, CO ;
- (iii) hydrogen, H_2 ;
- (iv) as a primary ligand, a monodentate phosphorus ligand; and
- (v) as a secondary ligand, a bidentate phosphorus ligand which confers resistance on the catalyst system to poisoning arising from the presence of undesired components in the Fischer-Tropsch derived feedstock.

2. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the hydroformylation reaction stage comprises a hydroformylation reactor, with the process including initially preparing the catalyst system by dissolving component (i), together with the ligands, in a solvent, to produce a catalyst solution, and heating the catalyst solution in the reactor in the presence of synthesis gas comprising CO and H_2 to form an active hydroformylation catalyst system in which the rhodium concentration in the catalyst solution in the hydroformylation reactor is from 10 to 1000 ppm.

3. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2~~, wherein the monodentate phosphorus ligand is used in a molar excess, relative to the rhodium, of from 50:1 to 1000:1.

4. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3 inclusive~~ Claim 1, wherein the bidentate phosphorus ligand is employed at a lower ligand to rhodium molar ratio than the monodentate phosphorus ligand, and wherein the bidentate phosphorus ligand to rhodium ratio is from 0.2:1 to 100:1.

5. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4 inclusive~~ Claim 1, wherein the monodentate phosphorus ligand is



where all R^a are the same or are dissimilar, and are each a branched or straight chain alkyl or aryl radical.

6. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 5, wherein in the ligand of formula (L1a), each R^a is an aryl group and all R^a are the same.

7. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 6 wherein, in the ligand of formula (L1a), each R^a is phenyl so that ligand (L1a) is triphenylphosphine.

8. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4 inclusive~~ Claim 1, wherein the monodentate phosphorus ligand is



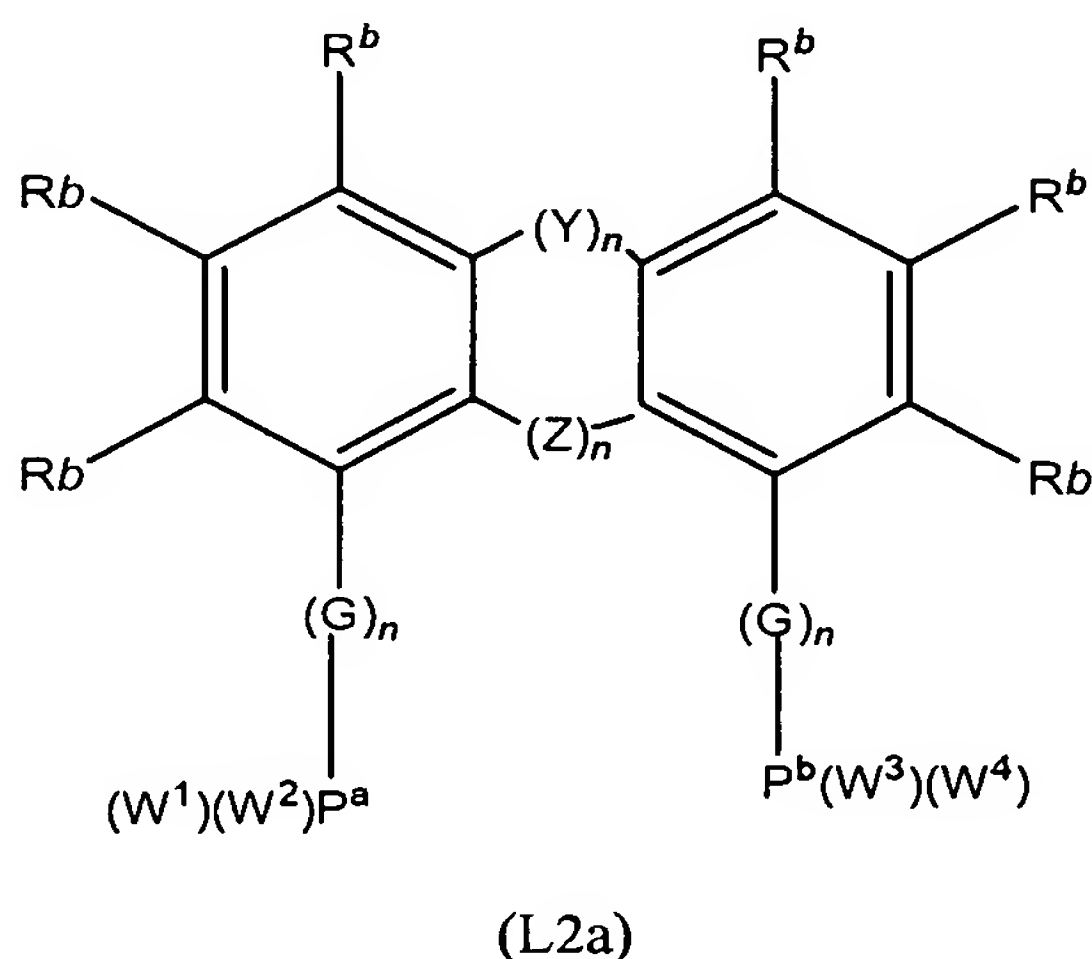
where all R^a are the same or are dissimilar, and are each a branched or straight chain alkyl or aryl radical.

9. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 8, wherein in the ligand of formula (L1b), each R^a is an aryl group and all R^a are the same.

10. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 9, wherein in the ligand of formula (L1b), each R^a is a substituted phenyl ring.

11. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 10, wherein the ligand (L1b) is tris(2,4-ditertiary butylphenyl) phosphite or tris(2-tertiary butylphenyl) phosphite.

12. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the bidentate phosphorus ligand is



wherein

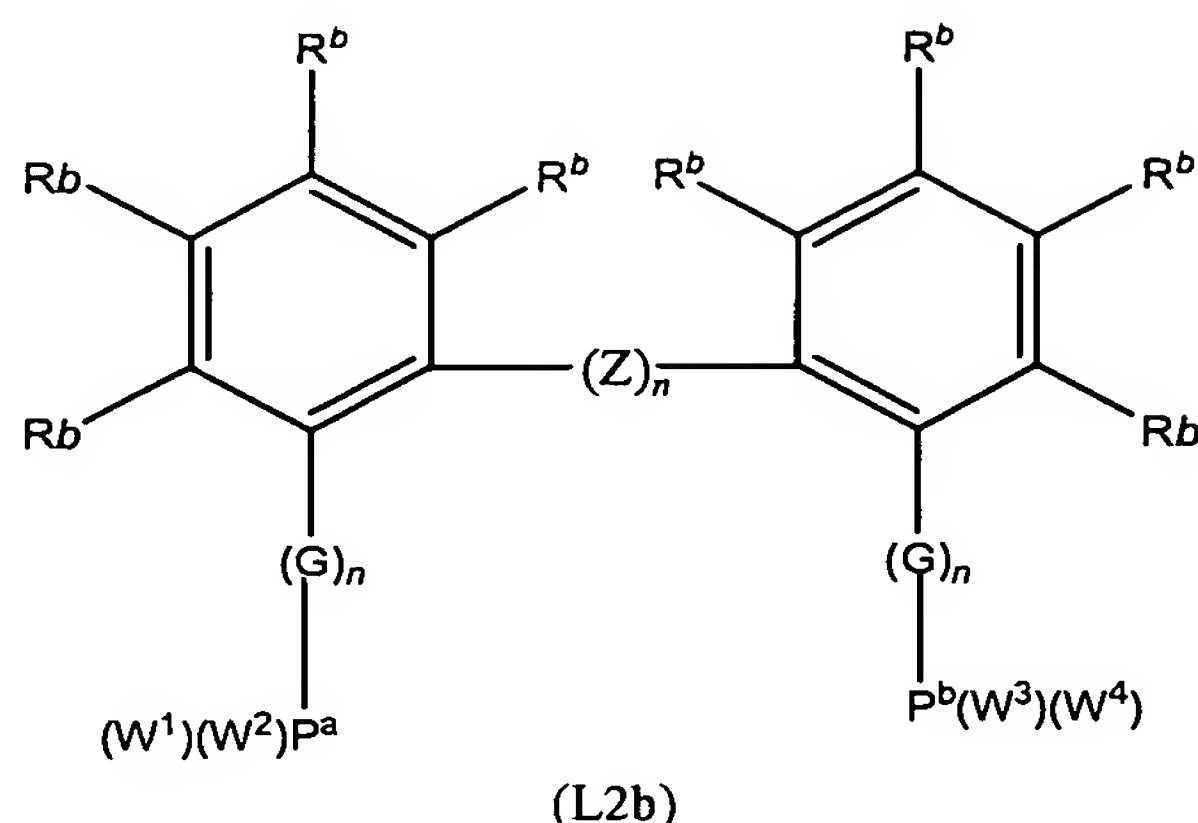
- (i) all R^b are the same or are dissimilar, and are each H, alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy, polyether, cyano, nitro, halogen, trifluoromethyl, $-C(O)R^c$, $-(R^d)C(O)R^c$, $-CHO$, $(R^d)CHO$, $-COOR^c$, $-(R^d)COOR^c$, $-COO^+M^+$, $-(R^d)COO^+M^+$, $-SO_3R^c$, $-(R^d)SO_3R^c$, $-SO_3^+M^+$, $-(R^d)SO_3^+M^+$, $-SR^c$, $-(R^d)SR^c$, $-SOR^c$, $-R^d(SOR^c)$, $-NR^c$, $-(R^d)NR^c$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$ or $-(R^d)N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$,

wherein

- (a) R^c and R^d are the same or different, and are each H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical;
 - (b) M^+ is a cation; and
 - (c) X^- is an anion;
- (ii) Y and Z are independent bridges, are the same or different, and are each selected from the radicals $-O-$, $-N(R^c)-$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)-$, $-N(C(O)R^c)-$, $-C(R^c)(R^c)-$, $C(C(R^c)(R^c))-$, $-C(O)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-Si(OR^c)(OR^c)-$, $-P(R^c)-$ or $P(OR^c)-$, where R^c and X^- are as hereinbefore defined;
- (iii) n (in $(Y)_n$ and $(Z)_n$) is, in each case, 0 or 1, with the proviso that n cannot be 0 for both Y and Z;
- (iv) W^1 , W^2 , W^3 and W^4 are the same or different, and are each an alkyl (branched or straight chain), alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy or trifluoromethyl radical;
- (v) a, b, in P^a and P^b , are used merely to identify the P atoms;
- (vi) each G is an independent linker radical, are the same or different, and is selected from $-O-$, $-N(R^f)-$, $-N^+(R^f)(R^f)(X^-)-$, $-C(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-C(F_2)-$ or $-C(R^f)(F)-$, wherein
 - (a) R^f is H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical, and with the proviso that when the radical contains more than one R^f , all R^f are the same or different;
 - (b) X^- is as defined above; and
- (vii) n (in each $(G)_n$) is 0 or 1.

13. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 11 inclusive~~ Claim

1, wherein the bidentate phosphorus ligand is



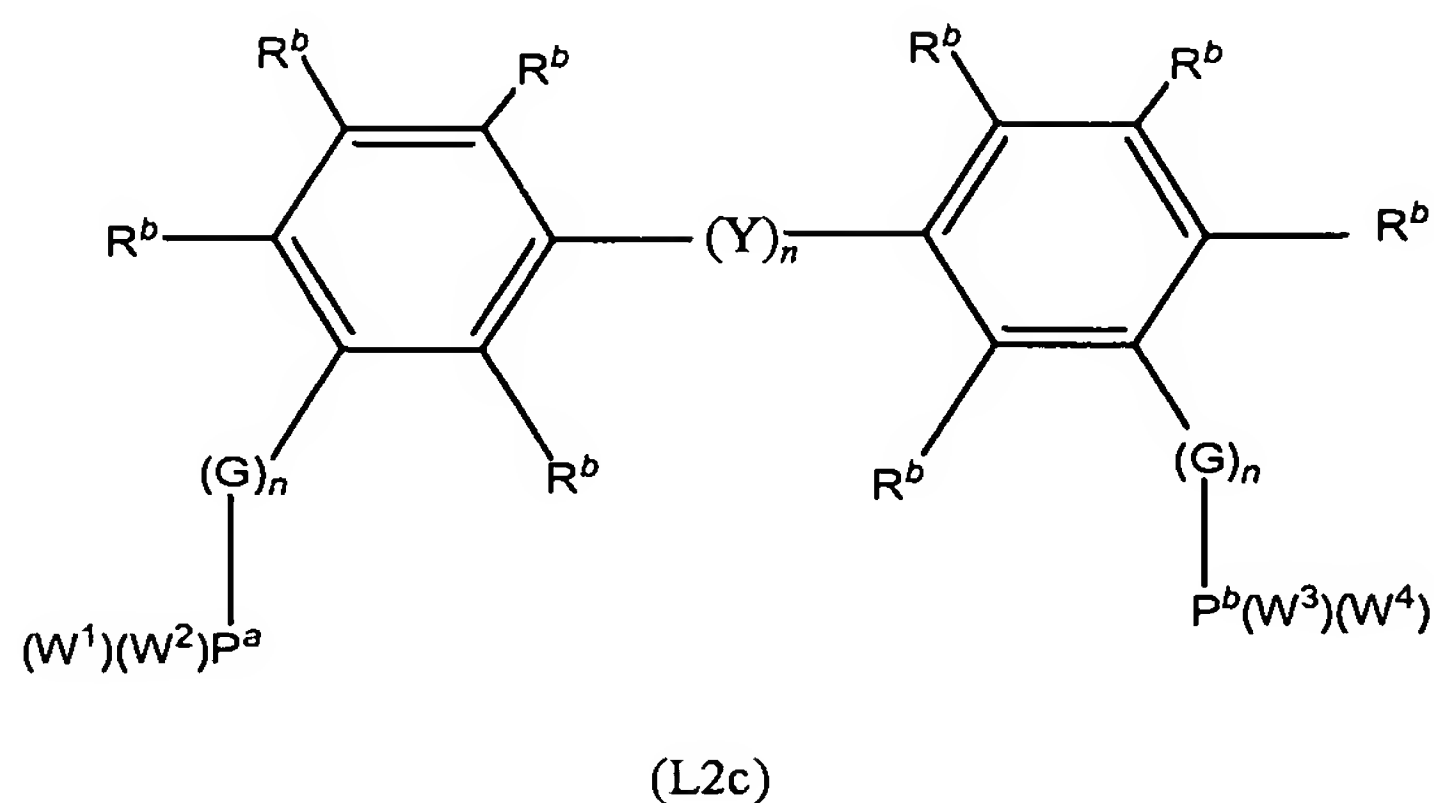
wherein

- (i) all R^b are the same or are dissimilar, and are each H, alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy, polyether, cyano, nitro, halogen, trifluoromethyl, $-C(O)R^c$, $-(R^d)C(O)R^c$, $-CHO$, $(R^d)CHO$, $-COOR^c$, $-(R^d)COOR^c$, $-COO^-M^+$, $-(R^d)COO^-M^+$, $-SO_3R^c$, $-(R^d)SO_3R^c$, $-SO_3^-M^+$, $-(R^d)SO_3^-M^+$, $-SR^c$, $-(R^d)SR^c$, $-SOR^c$, $-R^d(SOR^c)$, $-NR^c$, $-(R^d)NR^c$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$ or $-(R^d)N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$, wherein
 - (a) R^c and R^d are the same or different, and are each H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical;
 - (b) M^+ is a cation; and
 - (c) X^- is an anion;
- (ii) Z is an independent bridge, and is selected from the radicals $-O-$, $-N(R^c)-$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)-$, $-N(C(O)R^c)-$, $-C(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-C(C(R^c)(R^c))-$, $-C(O)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-Si(OR^c)(OR^c)-$, $-P(R^c)-$ or $P(OR^c)-$, where R^c and X^- are as defined above;
- (iii) n (in $(Z)_n$) is 1;
- (iv) W^1 , W^2 , W^3 and W^4 are the same or different, and are each an alkyl (branched or

straight chain), alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy or trifluoromethyl radical;

- (v) a, b, in P^a and P^b , are used merely to identify the P atoms;
- (vi) each G is an independent linker radical, are the same or different, and is selected from -O-, -N(R^f)-, -N⁺(R^f)(R^f)(X⁻)-, -C(R^f)(R^f)-, -S-, -Si(R^f)(R^f)-, -C(F²)- or -C(R^f)(F)-, wherein
- (c) R^f is H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical, and with the proviso that when the radical contains more than one R^f , all R^f are the same or different;
- (d) X⁻ is as defined above; and
- (vii) n (in each (G)_n) is 0 or 1.

14. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 11 inclusive~~ Claim 1, wherein the bidentate phosphorus ligand is



wherein

- (i) all R^b are the same or are dissimilar, and are each H, alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy, polyether, cyano, nitro, halogen, trifluoromethyl, -C(O) R^c , -(R^d)C(O) R^c , -CHO, (R^d)CHO, -COOR^c, -(R^d)COOR^c, -COO⁻M⁺, -(R^d)COO⁻M⁺, -SO₃ R^c , -(R^d)SO₃ R^c , -SO₃⁻M⁺,

$-(R^d)SO_3^-M^+$, $-SR^c$, $-(R^d)SR^c$, $-SOR^c$, $-R^d(SOR^c)$, $-NR^c$, $-(R^d)NR^c$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$

or $-(R^d)N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$, wherein

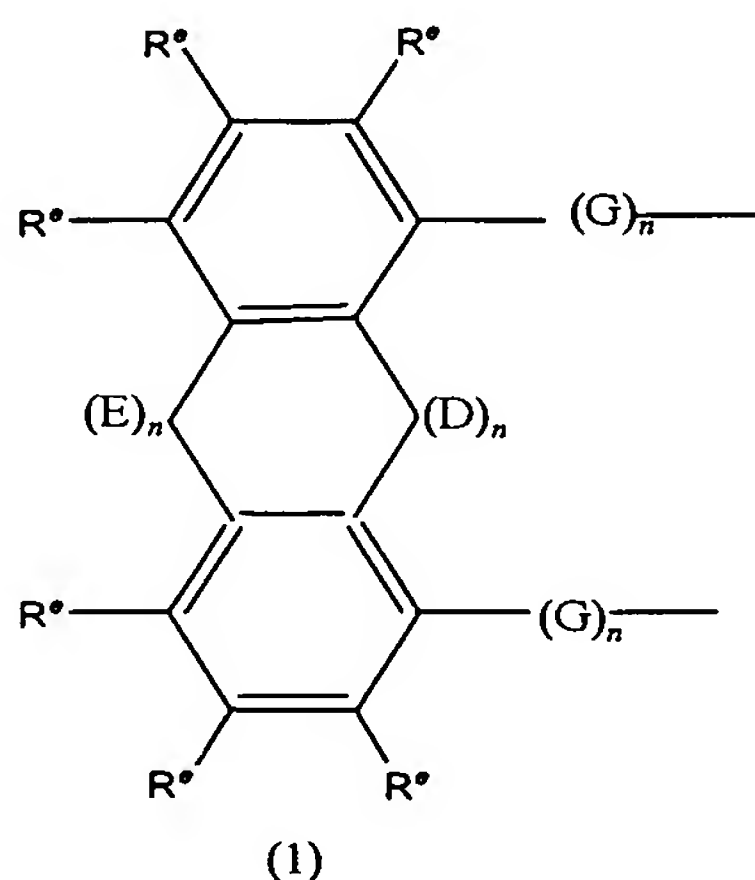
- (a) R^c and R^d are the same or different, and are each H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical;
- (b) M^+ is a cation; and
- (c) X^- is an anion;
- (ii) Y is an independent bridge, and is selected from the radicals $-O-$, $-N(R^c)-$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)-$, $-N(C(O)R^c)-$, $-C(R^c)(R^c)-$, $C(C(R^c)(R^c))-$, $-C(O)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-Si(OR^c)(OR^c)-$, $-P(R^c)-$ or $P(OR^c)-$, where R^c and X^- are as hereinbefore defined;
- (iii) n (in $(Y)_n$) is 1;
- (iv) W^1 , W^2 , W^3 and W^4 are the same or different, and are each an alkyl (branched or straight chain), alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy or trifluoromethyl radical;
- (v) a, b, in P^a and P^b , are used merely to identify the P atoms;
- (vi) each G is an independent linker radical, are the same or different, and is selected from $-O-$, $-N(R^f)-$, $-N^+(R^f)(R^f)(X^-)-$, $-C(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-C(F_2)-$ or $-C(R^f)(F)-$, wherein
 - (e) R^f is H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical, and with the proviso that when the radical contains more than one R^f , all R^f are the same or different;
 - (f) X^- is as defined above; and
- (vii) n (in each $(G)_n$) is 0 or 1.

15. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any one of Claims 12 to 14 inclusive~~ Claim 12, wherein in the ligand (L2a), ~~(L2b) or (L2c)~~, M^+ is an ion of an alkali or alkali earth metal, or is ammonium or a quaternary ammonium ion.

16. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any one of Claims 12 to 15 inclusive~~ Claim 12, wherein in the ligand (L2a), ~~(L2b) or (L2c)~~, X^- is an organic acid, phosphate or sulphate group.

17. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any one of Claims 12 to 16 inclusive~~ Claim 12, wherein in the ligand (L2a), ~~(L2b) or (L2c)~~, W^1 , W^2 , W^3 and W^4 are each an alkyl, aryl or aryloxy radical.

18. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 17, wherein in the ligand (L2a), ~~(L2b) or (L2c)~~, W^1 , W^2 , W^3 and W^4 are each an aryl or aryloxy radical in accordance with formula (1), with the proviso that the structure of formula (1) does not represent a bridging unit connecting P^a to P^b - for P^a , W^1 and W^2 represent radicals connected through their respective G linkers, and for P^b , W^3 and W^4 represent radicals connected through their respective G linkers



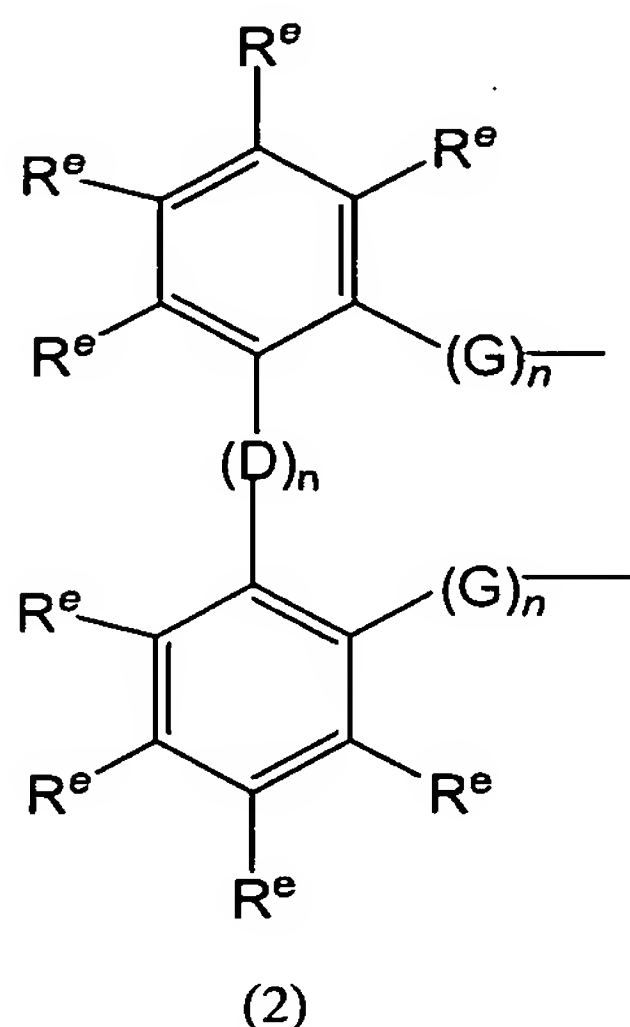
wherein

- (i) all R° are the same or are different, and are each H, alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl,

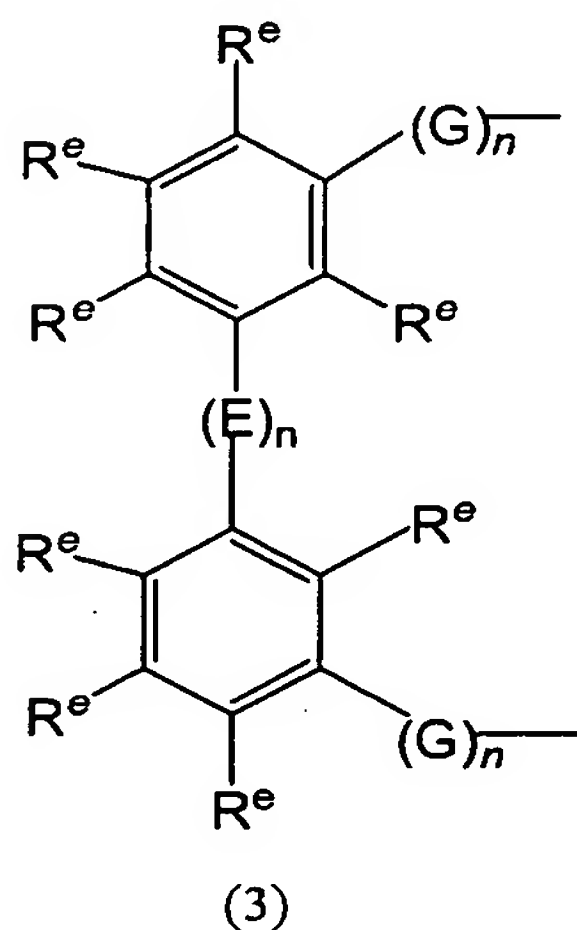
cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy, polyether, cyano, nitro, halogen, trifluoromethyl, $-C(O)R^c$, $-(R^d)C(O)R^c$, $-CHO$, $(R^d)CHO$, $-COOR^c$, $-(R^d)COOR^c$, $-COO^+M^+$, $-(R^d)COO^+M^+$, $-SO_3R^c$, $-(R^d)SO_3R^c$, $-SO_3^+M^+$, $-(R^d)SO_3^+M^+$, $-SR^c$, $-(R^d)SR^c$, $-SOR^c$, $-R^d(SOR^c)$, $-NR^c$, $-(R^d)NR^c$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$ or $-(R^d)N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$, wherein

- (a) R^c and R^d are the same or different, and are each H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical;
- (b) M^+ is a cation; and
- (c) X^- is an anion;
- (ii) each G is an independent linker radical, are the same or different, and is selected from $-O-$, $-N(R^f)-$, $-N^+(R^f)(R^f)(X^-)-$, $-C(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-C(F^2)-$ or $-C(R^f)(F)-$, wherein
 - (d) R^f is H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical, and with the proviso that when the radical contains more than one R^f , all R^f are the same or different;
 - (e) X^- is as defined above; and
- (iii) n (in each $(G)_n$) is 0 or 1;
- (iv) D and E are each an independent bridge, are the same or different, and are each selected from the radical, $-O-$, $-N(R^c)-$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$, $-N(C(O)R^c)-$, $-N(SiR_2^c)-$, $-C(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-C(C(R^c)(R^c))-$, $-C(O)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-Si(OR^c)(OR^c)-$, $-P(R^c)-$ or $-P(OR^c)-$, wherein R^c is H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical, and X^- is as defined above;
- (v) n (in each of $(D)_n$ and $(E)_n$) is 0 or 1.

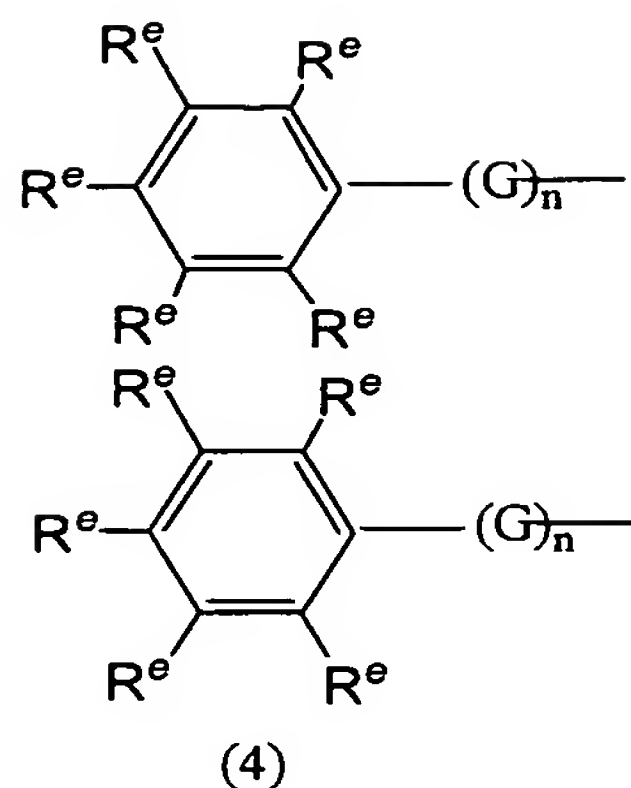
19. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 18 wherein, in formula (1), $n=0$, in $(E)_n$, so that the independent E bridge is absent; formula (1) will then have the structure of formula (2)



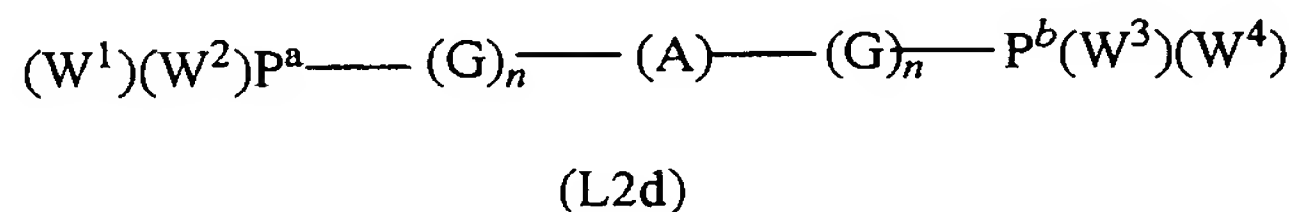
20. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 18 wherein, in formula (1), $n=0$, in $(D)_n$, so that the independent D bridging is absent; formula (1) will then have the structure of formula (3)



21. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 18, wherein, in formula (1), $n=0$, in both $(D)_n$ and $(E)_n$, so that both the independent bridges D and E are absent; formula (1) will then have the structure of formula (4)



22. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 11 inclusive~~
Claim 1, wherein the bidentate phosphorus ligand is



wherein

- (i) each G is an independent linker radical, are the same or different, and is selected from -O-, -N(R^f)-, -N⁺(R^f)(R^f)(X⁻)-, -C(R^f)(R^f)-, -S-, -Si(R^f)(R^f)-, -C(F²)- or -C(R^f)(F)-, wherein
 - (a) R^f is H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical, and with the proviso that when the radical contains more than one R^f, all R^f are the same or different;
 - (b) X⁻ is an anion; and
- (ii) n (in each (G)_n) is 0 or 1;
- (iii) a, b, in P^a and P^b, are used merely to identify the P atoms;
- (iv) W¹, W², W³ and W⁴ are the same or different, and are each an alkyl (branched or straight chain), alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy or trifluoromethyl radical; and
- (v) A is a bridging unit and is selected from one of the following diradicals:

$-(CR^b_2)_n-$, $-(CR^b)_n-$, $-(CR^bCR^b)_n-$, $-[C(O)]_n-$, $-[C(O)C(R^b)_2]_n-$, $-(NR^b)_n-$, $-S-$,
 $-(SiR^b_2)_n-$, $-(SiOR^b_2)_n-$, with

- (c) any alkyl radical having $n = 1$ to 5 and being cyclic, straight or branched or straight;
- (d) R^b being H, alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy, polyether, cyano, nitro, halogen, trifluoromethyl, $-C(O)R^c$, $-(R^d)C(O)R^c$, $-CHO$, $(R^d)CHO$, $-COOR^c$, $-(R^d)COOR^c$, $-COO^-M^+$, $-(R^d)COO^-M^+$, $-SO_3R^c$, $-(R^d)SO_3R^c$, $-SO_3^-M^+$, $-(R^d)SO_3^-M^+$, $-SR^c$, $-(R^d)SR^c$, $-SOR^c$, $-R^d(SOR^c)$, $-NR^c$, $-(R^d)NR^c$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$ or $-(R^d)N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$, wherein
- (e) R^c and R^d are the same or different, and are each H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical;
- (f) M^+ is a cation; or
- (vi) A is a bridging unit and is '-Ar-', which is an aryl or hereroaryl group of between 4 and 18 carbon atoms.

23. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 22 inclusive~~ Claim 1, wherein the reaction temperature is from 50°C to 150°C ; the synthesis gas pressure under which the hydroformylation reaction is performed is from 1 to 100 bar; and the $H_2:CO$ ratio is from 1:10 to 100:1.